

GIRLS' 600-MILE CAR DASH FOR BRIDE SHIP

SYDNEY, Friday.—Four Victorian fiances of American servicemen arrived in Sydney today to board the Monterey after travelling nearly 600 miles in a hire car, which they chartered in Melbourne.

They are Dawn McLeod Sharpe, of Mentone; Grace Perry, of Melbourne; Kitty O'Dea, of Camberwell, and Joan Morrish, of Yea. A Tasmanian girl, Lois Gould, of Launceston, travelled with them from Melbourne.

The girls said that they were determined to beat the Victorian transport strike and arrive in Sydney before the Monterey left for San Francisco.

"They've even decided to picket the Victorian border and we slipped across just in time," Grace Perry said.

When the Monterey leaves on Monday she will carry 219 Australian brides and children of U.S. servicemen, making the total to leave Australia so far 9544. At least 600 more await transport.

The number of American war brides in Australia and Great Britain was higher in proportion to population than in any other part of the world, Col. R. L. Schuyler, C.O. of the Australian Base Command of the U.S. Army, said today.